

NATIONAL

New careers for young women

EDITOR'S NOTE: This article from Palestine Refugees Today reports on the growing opportunities offered refugee women by their admission at U.N. Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) vocational training centres.

FOR THE FIRST TIME since its establishment in 1960, UNRWA's Wadi Seer Training Centre outside Amman has accepted a number of young women for two-year technical courses which were open in the past to male trainees only. The same is true for the UNRWA Vocational Training Centre in Damascus.

This year, 17 young women will graduate from Wadi Seer as laboratory technicians, architectural draughtsmen and quantity surveyors. Another group of 24 now enrolled in courses for land

and assistant pharmacist are due to graduate from the centre next year.

In the initial phase of these courses male and female trainees had to adapt to a co-educational system — a new experience for both. The young men showed some reluctance in the beginning at having to share the courses with girls, fearing that it would negatively affect the general standard of the course. But gradually, and with results starting to show, objections subsided to give way to a spirit of competition.

In the words of the instructors, the young women tend to show

more perseverance, accuracy and perfection in technical training work. They do feel some added pressure that they have to work harder to prove themselves.

Nathmieh Ma'adi, from Wihdat camp, a trainee in architectural draughting, says: "I am very happy that I have chosen this field; I enjoy this kind of work." She worked for an engineer during part of her summer holidays. He said: "She works like three draughtsmen."

For Nuha Abu Khalaf, a construction technician trainee, the career is a "challenge, so different from the careers traditionally open to female refugee students. It involves various skills, different activities, a lot of contact with people and a new kind of responsibility." Miriam Bahjat, another trainee, said: "I feel I will be taking an active role in society. Also, this course opens good job opportunities and is different from

teaching, for which I have little inclination."

For some other young women who would have liked to go on to higher studies such as engineering, but could not afford it, this is one step on the way to that objective. Such is the case of Azizeh Al Jabali: "I would have liked to do engineering, but right now I need to work and wait until I have the opportunity and the means to achieve my aim."

As to employment, UNRWA training centre graduates enjoy a good reputation in the Arab World. Female trainees would not be surprised if job offers were directed to them too. "I, as well as other female colleagues, expect that employers when recruiting trainees will be looking before anything else, for proficiency and skill," said Nuha Abu Khalaf.

Another important factor which will have a positive impact on the employment of female graduates is that the young men of the centre, once having completed the course, will be called for military service in Jordan. Therefore, part of the local demand for technical skills could be filled by female trainees. Moreover, male technical graduates are inclined, when attracted by higher salaries, to travel and work in other Arab countries, leaving behind job opportunities which could become available to women graduates.

Intisar Abu Damess, whose father works as a draughtsman in Saudi Arabia, was encouraged to follow the same course. "I will be doing the same kind of work, but in Jordan and not away from home," she says.

Help from OPEC

During the past school year, the vocational training programme for Palestinian refugees has undergone a sizeable expansion, financed by the OPEC Fund. Of

the \$2.5 million donated by the fund, \$2 million have already been spent. Although expansion work is still in progress, UNRWA's training centres have been able to open their doors to an additional 172 young refugees, and nine new instructors have been hired.

Thanks to the donation, the capacity of the seven vocational training centres, now with 3,550 places, will have been increased by 400 places by the end of the 1982-83 school year in just four years. And expansion is needed, as about four out of five applicants for admission to the centres have to be turned down because of lack of space.

Training is also being improved and diversified. Eight of the nine new courses planned have begun, 17 classrooms, workshops and laboratories are under construction or are being refurbished and more than \$1 million has been used for buying new materials and equipment which are so important for vocational training.

The hundreds more young men and women who will be able to join each year the ranks of the some 24,000 graduates of UNRWA's training centres are contributing not only to the betterment of their own lives but also to the development of the Arab World. Many graduates easily find work in Arab countries, especially the Gulf states.

The rapid growth of the oil industry in the Middle East at the end of the 1940s came at the same time as the flight of the Palestinians. Since then, the ties between the oil-producing countries and the Palestinian refugees have constantly developed.

Qualified manpower is essential for a diversified and growing economy. From construction to welding, UNRWA vocational training centres offer 36 different kinds of course in trades that are sought after in the Middle East.



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NATIONAL

1982 Jordan auto rally set for June

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN, Jan. 6 — The 1982 Jordan Rally will be held on Thursday and Friday, June 3 and 4, it has been announced.

Royal Automobile Club President Derek Ledger told the Jordan Times that although the route has not been finally determined yet, the rally will probably follow the pattern of the 1981 rally. The start will be from Al Hussein Youth City at approximately 10 a.m. on June 3. There will be a number of special stages, mainly on unsurfaced tracks in the mountain regions and in the desert.

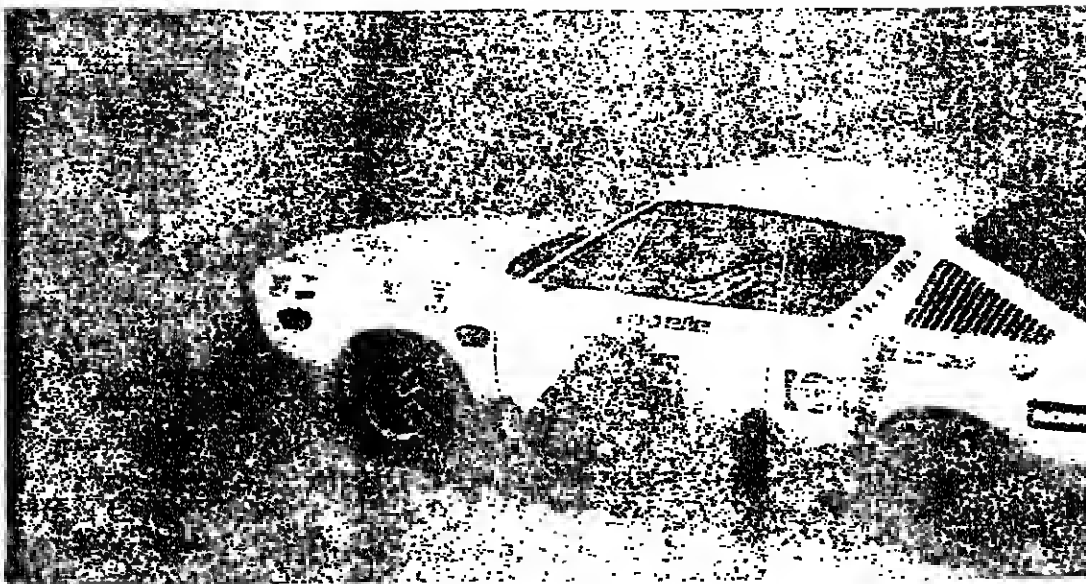
Some special stages will be at night, before the main night halt at Aqaba, where the competing cars will be secured in *parc ferme*. There will be some stages on the beach near the Saudi Arabian border, and the route will then return north, probably using some new areas — especially in the Jordan Valley and in the north of the country.

The rally will finish in the centre of Amman. Mr. Ledger said the exact location has not been determined, and will be decided by the sponsors: the Amman Marriott Hotel and Petra Bank.

The total distance of the rally is expected to be between 1,200 and 1,400 kilometres, with at least 350 kilometres of special stages, which will be over all types of roads. These include, especially, unsurfaced desert tracks, though there will be some stages on asphalt roads. There will be two regrouping and refuelling points, located at the Royal Automobile Club headquarters.

The government is closely involved in the rally. Police assistance is freely available, as are the medical services of the army and the Civil Defence Directorate. The Royal Jordan Air Force provides helicopter surveillance, and the television and other news media are becoming increasingly interested in providing news coverage, Mr. Ledger said.

The rally results are computer recorded from information that is transmitted from all locations by



A competitor in the 1981 Jordan Rally speeds through the desert

radio, courtesy of the Royal Jordan Society of Radio Amateurs. This ensures that up-to-date information on the progress of the event, as well as the relative positions of the competitors, can be

made available at short notice. The Ministry of Tourism is one of the main supporters of the rally. This ensures that all necessary formalities for the temporary entry of foreign rally cars, support

cars and spare parts can be arranged easily.

Mr. Ledger said it is probable that the organising committee of the Jordan Rally will invite officials from other major automobile clubs, such as the RAC of Great Britain, to observe and advise on various aspects of the event in order to ensure that its organisation is maintained to the highest possible standards.

Prophet's birthday marked in countrywide ceremonies

AMMAN, Jan. 6 (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein today received cables of good wishes on Prophet Mohammad's birthday anniversary. The cables came from Prime Minister Mudar Badran, National Consultative Council President Ahmad Al Tarawneh, Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Bahjat Al Talhoumi and Commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces Lt. Gen. Sharif Zaid Shaker, as well as the directors of civil defence, public security and general intelligence, Amman Mayor Isam Ajlouni and directors of official and public institutions.

A religious celebration was held this evening at Abu Darwish Mosque in Ashrafieh. Speakers at the rite called on Muslims to unify their ranks and adhere to their religion. A large congregation attended the prayers.

Celebrations were also held in Mafraq today on the Prophet's birthday anniversary. A religious ceremony was held at the main mosque of the city, during which a number of speeches were made outlining the impact of Islam's principles on the world's civilisations. The district governor and directors of local government departments were among the congregation.

The directorate of religious guidance in Mafraq District will tomorrow pay visits to centres catering for handicapped people, and to the Mafraq government hospital, to offer patients gifts on the occasion.

Airport hotel work starts soon

AMMAN, Jan. 6 — The French contracting firm Sodetec, after the recent signing of financing agreements in Paris, is set soon to start work on the Gateway hotel at the new Queen Alia International Airport.

A release from Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline, said that although 24 months had been allowed for the completion of the hotel, Sodetec had undertaken to do the job in only 16 months.

The new airport at Jizah, about 30 kilometres south of Amman, is set to start operations around the middle of this year.

King praises Iraqi stand

AMMAN, Jan. 6 (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein today sent a cable of good wishes to Iraqi President Saddam Hussein on the 61st anniversary of the establishment of the Iraqi army. In his cable King Hussein expressed pride in the Iraqi army for its sacrifices in Palestine and the Syrian Golan Heights, and paid tribute to Iraq's struggle on the eastern flank of the Arab homeland.

"The war the Iraqi army is waging under your leadership reaffirms Iraq's true commitment to Arab national principles and its defence of the nation's rights," King Hussein told President Saddam.

Qasem sees Kuwaiti envoy

AMMAN, Jan. 6 (Petra) — Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem conferred in his office today with the Kuwaiti Ambassador to Jordan. They reviewed Jordanian-Kuwaiti relations and discussed means of promoting them.

Bulgarians due

AMMAN, Jan. 6 (J.T.) — A Bulgarian agricultural delegation representing cooperative organisations will arrive in Amman on Jan. 13.

The Agricultural Engineers Association will hold a seminar on Jan. 14 for the members of the Bulgarian delegation, who will speak about methods of irrigation used in Bulgaria.

T.V. production centre project gets under way

By Dina Matar
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Now that the Jordanian Company for Television, Radio and Cinema Production has been given the official sanction, its projected television production centre, estimated to cost about JD 8 million, will tentatively get off the ground early next summer. The project, which has been stalled for some time, has gathered momentum recently; especially now that the design and consultancy work has been completed.

Now the project is in its pre-qualification stage, and international contractors will be chosen out of those who bid for the project in the summer. The design, undertaken by the Austrian consultancy firm, Professor Hannes Lindl, provides for two television production studios, a scenery area, auxiliary rooms with the technical equipment needed for taping, editing, copying and production purposes, office accommodations and other supporting facilities, all set in a three-storey building on a 14-dunum tract near the Jordan Television station.

The project is expected to take 36 months to complete. The centre will attempt to provide Jordan and other Arab countries with a suitable studio for producing local plays, films, TV programmes and commercials which will be sold in the local and neighbouring markets as well. The production centre, the first ever to be built in the country besides the studios of Jordan Television, is expected to pay for itself in due time. Planners here believe that the centre has become a necessity, since television production facilities are lacking in the area.

The idea for the production centre was initiated a long time ago, but has met with some difficulties. Some people here thought that it would never see the light again. But last year, the Jordanian government found that a public share-holding company rather than a purely governmental institution — as was envisaged before — would be a more efficient way to handle the project.

Officials believe that this would give the company more flexibility and would encourage private sector investment in such industries.

The Jordanian company in charge of the project has a capital set at JD 5 million, with 51 per cent of its shares allocated to the government and governmental institutions. The government itself has the lion's share, with 26 per cent; the Pension Fund has 10 per cent; the Social Security Corporation five per cent; Alia the Royal Jordanian Airline five per cent, and the Postal Savings Fund five per cent. Of the remaining 49 per cent of the capital, the Jordan Securities Corporation has bought a portion. The rest will soon be floated in the market for public subscription. As many as 2,242,000 shares, at a cost of JD 1 each, will be available later this month, Pension Fund, Projects Engineer Naif Kakish said.

Marj Al Hamam expands services

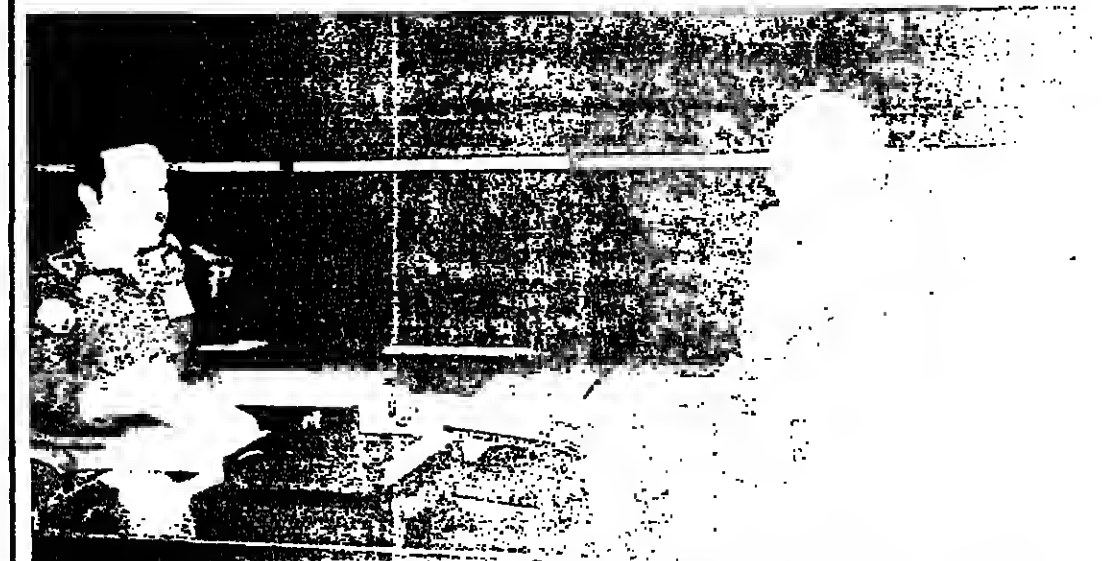
SUWEILEH, Jan. 6 (J.T.) — The JD 11,000 Marj Al Hamam electrification project will be completed in May, Marj Al Hamam Municipality has announced.

Quoting a municipality official, Al Ra'i newspaper today reported that the municipality will also provide public services for the housing estates of Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airlines; the army, and teachers; and for private housing projects and the villages of southern Umm Al Summaq and Umm Abbarah.

The future plan of the municipality will supply these areas with all kinds of public services, the official added.

He said that the municipality has supplied these areas with essential services. It is hoped that others will be provided very soon, he added.

King gives C-in-C military directives



AMMAN, Jan. 6 (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein, the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, today called at the army headquarters and met with the commander-in-chief, Lt. Gen. Sharif Zaid Shaker. King Hussein gave to Sharif Zaid his directives concerning a number of issues pertaining to the armed forces.

Meeting discusses plans for education technology

AMMAN, Jan. 6 (Petra) — A meeting held at the Ministry of Education today discussed the contribution of the National Planning Council (NPC) to the development of education in Jordan, through the establishment of the projected educational technology department at the Ministry of Education.

Attending the meeting were Minister of Education Sa'id Al Tal, NPC President Hanna Odeh and senior aides. Dr. Tal explained the need to establish the technology department, which will cater for the introduction of

educational programmes on television and radio. This, he said, requires the construction of special broadcasting stations. He also pointed out the need to meet the requirements of remote rural regions for clothing, food and equipment to be used at children's schools.

At the meeting, Dr. Odeh proposed the formation of a joint committee grouping the NPC, the Ministry of Education and the two Jordanian universities, to study the problems facing the Ministry of Education and to put forward visualisations for their solution.

WHAT'S GOING ON

Exhibitions

- Paintings by French neorealists, at the Jordan National Gallery (ends Thursday).
- Paintings by Ammar Khaghash, at the Alia Art Gallery.
- "International Slide Show," at the Soviet Cultural Centre.
- Islamic Book Exhibition at the Arab Community College, opposite the University of Jordan Hospital.

Embassy function

- The Embassy of Pakistan will hold a Prophet's birthday function at the chancery at 4:30 p.m. Thursday. Male members of the Pakistani community are welcome.

Field trip

- The Friends of Archaeology plan a trip to the desert castle of Tubha in the Wadi Ghadaf, about 100 kilometres southeast of Amman. Meet at the registration centre Friday at 7 a.m. Off-the-road vehicles are recommended. Call tel. 43489 to arrange transportation.

Today's Weather

It will be partly cloudy, with a slight increase in temperature and light variable winds, gradually changing to westerly moderate, in Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

	Overnight low	Daytime high
Amman	5	15
Aqaba	13	22
Deserts	3	16
Jordan Valley	11	23

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 13, Aqaba 18. Humidity readings: Amman 56 per cent, Aqaba 56 per cent.

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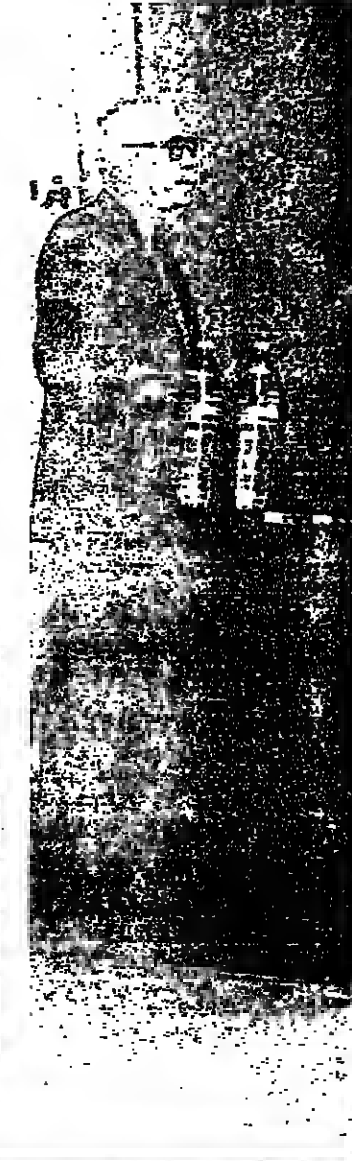
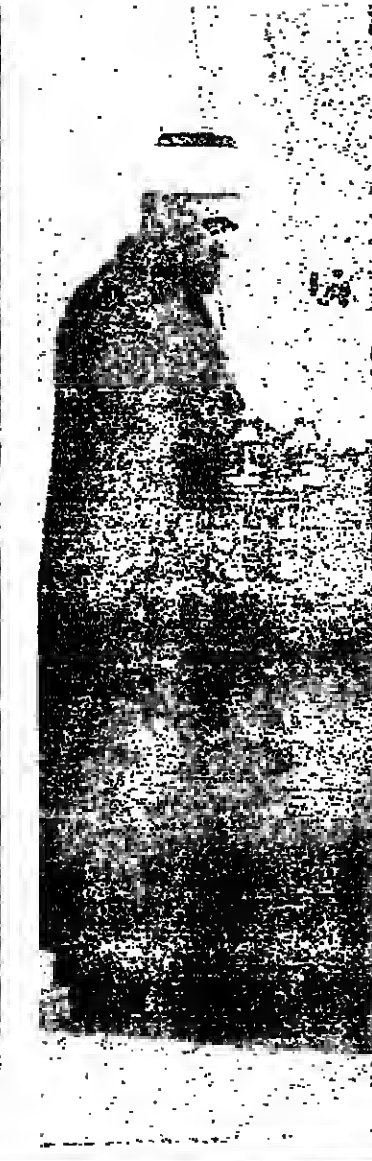
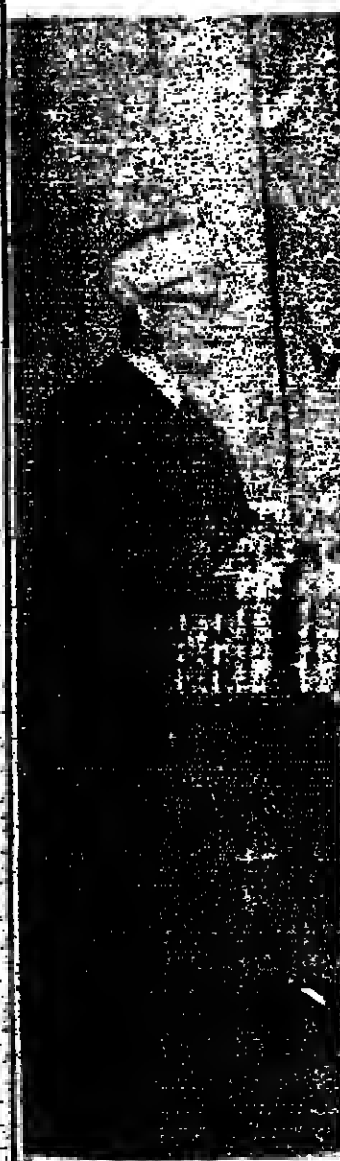
For further information, please contact:

MISS ANNAE,

Tel: 842992 (from 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.)

Last date for registration: Jan. 20, 1982

His Majesty King Hussein attends celebrations Wednesday marking Prophet Mohammad's birthday. To the King's right, next to His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, are Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Bahjat Talhoumi and Chief of the Royal Court Ahmad Al Lawzi. Seated to King Hussein's left are Awqaf and Islamic and Holy Places Affairs Minister Kamel Al Sharif, Prime Minister Mudar Badran, National Consultative Council President Ahmad Tarawneh and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces Lt. Gen. Sharif Zaid Shaker. Speakers at the ceremony, held at the Palace of Culture, included (left to right, below) Chief Islamic Justice Sheikh Ibrahim Qattan, President of the Royal Academy for Islamic Civilisation Research (the Al Al Bayt Foundation) Nassereddin Al Assad, Armed Forces Mufti Sheikh Nuh Salman and Mr. Sharif. (Petra photos)



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An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

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RED & BLACK

JORDAN: Top ten economic events of 1981

By Jawad Ahmad

The year 1981 has been quite eventful in its political and economic developments. One almost loses sight when he tries to delineate a path in this very thick forest. After consultations with people who enjoy a keen sense of economic evaluation, and using my own impressions, I believe that the following ten events constitute the most outstanding in 1981. Their relative importance and ranking are based on a mix of indicators such as far-reaching effects, the response they created, and the novelty of their occurrence. These ten are:

1. The Five Year Plan Document

The five-year plan document was finished in 1981 and was the subject of an interdisciplinary debate in the August seminar chaired by the prime minister. It was the first time that the government got directly involved in the deliberations with the private sector. The plan emerged as a surprise in its size (JD 3.3 billion), and in its reliance on the government sector, which will shoulder 60 per cent of the total allocations. If successfully implemented, the plan will furnish Jordan with the needed infrastructure that would carry Jordan into the stage of economic maturity and development.

2. The 1982 budget law

The year 1981 should be aptly called "the year of the bill-

ions". In February, the expanded definition of money supply exceeded JD 1.1 billion. The GDP (or gross domestic product) exceeded one billion mark. Yet, above all, the budget allocation for the central government (JD 765 million) and the budget of the autonomous government corporations (JD 350 million) exceed the billion mark substantially. With a budget like this, the government is growing faster than the rest of the economy and in a manner that should require reevaluation.

3. The Mediterranean/Dead Sea Canal

This event which was announced during 1981 stands out as a proxy for the continued Israeli attempts at aborting Jordan's economic development while improving theirs. This event which raised strong protestations from Jordan in all international and regional fora aims at enhancing Israeli atomic power and strengthening their hold over the occupied territories. Other Israeli measures included their decision to curb Jordan's tourism by insisting that tourists who cross the bridge to the West Bank can fly via Lid airport or must have their passports stamped by Israeli authorities if they opt to return to Jordan. In addition, the Israelis prohibited money transfers from Arab sources to West Bank municipalities, in an attempt to link them with the Israeli economy.

4. The eruption of cholera

The eruption of cholera last summer cost Jordan around JD 80 million. The loss came in the form of a decrease in vegetable and fruit exports in the high season, a decrease in tourism and remittances, more Jordanians going abroad, and the disruption which took place in domestic trade causing an undue rise in the prices of many food items. Yet the event itself led to a heated debate later on the line of authority separating that of local and central government. This issue has not yet been resolved, but I expect it to take further attention and action in the coming years.

5. The deterioration in the contracting sector

The contracting sector of Jordan began its downward march in 1979 and continued to decline until it reached rock bottom in 1981. The government began to take certain salvational attempts in the second half of the year, but those did not materialise into anything tangible. The climax event in this regard was the unjustified rejection by the National Consultative Council (NCC) of the draft law of the Big Projects Corporation submitted on behalf of the government by the Minister of Public Works. This sector must be revived and allowed to grow, otherwise the chance of implementing the five year

plan projects will diminish to a serious limit.

6. The speculative mood

In fashion with the colossal figures of 1981, the Amman Financial Market witnessed quite a boom which started mid September. The total volume of share trading on the floor exceeded JD 74 million in 1981 compared with JD 42 million in 1980, JD 16 million in 1979 and JD 6 million only in 1978. Yet, the outstanding rise took place as of September 15, and the volume of trading from September 15 until December 31 was almost JD 40 million accounting for 54 of the total year's volume. This speculative mood spread also to land purchases. These two developments were boosted by the dampening profitability on foreign exchange deposits outside Jordan and which are assumed to have reached the JD 100 million figure. The government's decision to prohibit sales of land or the parcelation of land outside Amman at less than 60 dunams was partially responsible for the speculation in land within the greater Amman and in the stock market.

7. Financial institutions

The profitability of financial institutions of 1981 is noteworthy. This has led many people to file applications with the Central Bank for the license as investment, brokers and saving and loan corporations. The

Central Bank licensed two new ones in 1981, and so far it has been very slow in granting others. Unless the Central Bank makes obvious his policy guidelines on this matter, it will be subjected to a great deal of pressure.

8. The rise in labour imports

There had never been as high a demand for foreign labour in Jordan as in 1981. Despite the fact that the Ministry of Labour granted 80 thousand non-Jordanians permits to work in Jordan, the actual figure would exceed 120 thousand because a number of those do not register or are exempted from registration. Yet, the demand is expected to grow even further. This issue will become very serious in 1982 because the labour union and others concerned will voice their criticism of such a development.

9. The transportation revolution

The figures on transportation and their quantum jump are staggering. Alia bought 6 new large planes, the Aqaba port handled more than 1300 vessels in 1981, Amman airport handled more than 110 planes daily which is twice the normal capacity, the Garage Unions office in Aqaba deals with more than 7800 truck drivers, the newly established Jordan Maritime Corporation bought two ships, the Public

Transportation Corporation bought 250 new buses from Germany, etc. The list of staggering figures can go on. If we add to that the new roads, and the number of new trucks, trailers, vans, pick-ups we will go out of our wits. The transportation sector is really a phenomenon.

10. The new fiscal laws

Among the major legislations which the government had completed in 1981 and will witness a birth in 1982 are the following: the land ownership law, the income tax law, and the rent law. Although much talk has been done on these laws during the last decade nothing tangible or bold enough had been done. The land ownership law aims at putting regulations on the fragmentation of land, particularly arable land. The second is the long awaited law of income tax which aims at better redistribution of income and at better collection methods such as introducing the self-assessment concept. The third law of rents aims at moving are of the most rigid and unfair laws of Jordan. Should these laws pass and be implemented with success, Jordan's economy will stand to become a more self-dependent and equitable one.

In conclusion, one must admit that the list above is not exactly one of events, but more of developments. It is aimed at projecting major happenings which might prove to be useful for further analysis in the future.

Oh, really?

ON THE day of a critical U.N. Security Council session to discuss the Israeli land-grab in the occupied Golan Heights, a Zinnist organisation announces plans to "mobilise" some 20,000 Jews and rush them into the area. The move is sponsored by Defence Minister Ariel Sharon, one of the most obdurate and at the same time, devious, public figures in Israel. The chairman of the settlers committee denies the announcement has anything to do with the U.N. debate.

Well, that might just be so; but we can't help wondering, Zinnist efforts to pump as many people as possible into territory Israel wants have been going on long enough that the move isn't terribly surprising; but why make the announcement right now? The purpose of the prolonged and intensive settlement drive in the West Bank has long been obvious—through the creation of a fait accompli, Israel makes it more difficult for anyone to force it to give up land. The moves have nothing to do with vital security needs, the "frontier spirit", the Bible or anything except land hunger. Israel has the land and it wants to keep it.

The motive is little different in the present case. Israel has announced its intentions; by extending its administration to the Golan it has tried to swallow the territory completely. Now the Zionist leaders see an outraged world beginning to threaten action, and they decide they had better get some people in there quickly. The more the better, they reason—once those "peaceful farming communities" are set up, what right-thinking country would want to destroy them?

So the announcement is not timed to say anything to the Security Council? How interesting.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

Town imprisoned

AL RA'Y: The citizens of Rafah are forced to keep to their houses as if they were prisoners because the Israeli occupation authorities have imposed a curfew on their city for no reason except that they expressed their objection to the so-called civilian administration. Israel has imprisoned the whole population of this Palestinian city. Western papers have commented on this incident and some might have carried it as a very minor item.

Meanwhile, one cannot help but notice that the ministers of the European Common Market have launched an intensive campaign calling for the release of some Polish citizens arrested by the Polish authorities because of domestic affairs in Poland. These people who have launched the campaign have resorted to the slogan of "human rights" in their campaign.

This incident reveals the strange double standards in utilising this slogan. The sleeping conscience of the West which does not react to what is happening to the Palestinian citizen of Rafah suddenly awakes and turns the world topsy-turvy just because the Polish authorities have arrested a number of its own citizens. This same conscience pictures the deed of the Polish authorities as the tragedy of the century.

We are not trying to compare what is taking place in the Palestinian arena to what is happening in Poland because the two issues have nothing in common. Our comparison is meant to highlight this two-faced conscience which represents a very strange phenomenon which should warn the Arabs not to put their trust in the conscience of other people. The Arabs must realise that their intrinsic strength is the only weapon that can protect them from harm, secure their rights and awaken sleeping consciences.

Won't be fooled

AL DUSTOUR: The suspect activities of Menachem Milson, the coordinator of the so-called civilian administration, calls for alertness and watchfulness because this mean policy of the Israeli occupation authorities have received some response from a number of weak people who do not understand the grave implications of their acts.

In all his movements and contacts, Prof. Milson avoids and fears patriotic persons and elected mayors because they refuse to cooperate with him and because he understands that they will not be deceived by his manoeuvres. He deals with and contacts suspect people who accept to cooperate with him, like the members of the Israeli-established villages associations. He gives these people money and helps them in their dealings with the Israelis. At the same time he smoothes municipal councils and deprives them from the necessary funds they need to carry out their vital projects. He considers mayors and municipality members as dangerous elements who ought to be confronted. In doing this he agrees with Israeli chief of staff Eitan who threatened to harass these people or deport them outside the occupied territories.

We have no doubt that the people who foiled all enemy conspiracies and defied oppression and terrorism will be watchful and will not be deceived by Milson's sugar-coated methods. But our proud people in the occupied territories will be able to foil Prof. Milson's devilish efforts and deceptive methods.

Hurtado rules OK

By Kevin Dunn

Osvaldo Hurtado, president of Ecuador by accident rather than design, has weathered the roughest storms of his first six months in office.

A wave of strikes, a looming financial crisis and rumours of an imminent military coup sapped confidence recently in the young president's centre-left government.

But by using deft political footwork and taking a firm line with trade unions, the president reasserted control, diplomatic and political sources said.

President Hurtado, an urbane, 42-year-old former university professor, was thrust into the presidency last May when head of state Jaime Roldos was killed in a plane crash.

He had become vice-president two years earlier in elections which restored democracy to this South American republic after a decade of civilian and military dictatorships.

Ecuador, a poor country of only eight million people, has had some 50 military coups in 150 years of independence.

Reports that another coup was being hatched began to circulate in mid-November amid student demonstrations and growing labour unrest.

The protests were triggered by a 40 per cent rise in the price of sugar but broadened into general opposition to the government's economic policies.

At the same time, there was a sudden run on the sucre, the normally stable national currency, against the dollar.

"It was beginning to look as if the situation was getting out of hand," a senior foreign diplomat commented.

Cancelling a proposed visit to Venezuela and Colombia, President Hurtado moved quickly to restore confidence.

He made several changes to his economic team and brought in a new finance minister as part of a pact with the small centre-left democratic party (PD).

The moves had an immediate positive effect on the sucre's free market value and were welcomed by industrialists and bankers.

"We are very satisfied," industrialist leader Eduardo Vilaguiran said. "There should now be greater coherence in the government's economic policies."

Labour unrest, however, continued to simmer with strikes called by teachers, rural doctors and telecommunications workers.

Trade union leaders sought to capitalise on the stoppages by calling a one-day general strike to demand across-the-board pay increases and price cuts.

"We support democracy but we are not prepared to suffer hunger, misery and unemployment," a leader of the united workers' front

(FUT) said.

But the strike, set for December 9, received only minimal backing as Ecuadorians rallied to President Hurtado's appeal for support for the civilian government.

In a rare televised speech, the president denounced the strike call as an attempt to undermine democracy.

"There are people who to the organisation of strikes and stoppages have an ulterior motive, which is none other than to put an end to the democratic system," he said.

The president also accused the political right-wing of attempting to destabilise the government in the hope of provoking a return to authoritarian rule.

According to government spokesman Ernesto Alban, right-wingers would like to see Chilean-style monetarist economic policies adopted in Ecuador.

"There are sectors who feel that the only way to get that system imposed is by a dictatorial regime," Mr. Alban told Reuters.

However, diplomatic sources doubted whether those groups were representative of most businessmen or could count on support within the military.

Democratic party leader Francisco Huerta said there had been a real threat to the democratic government because of "internal and international motivations."

He declined to elaborate but said the danger had passed. "As a doctor, I would give a good prognosis of the political, economic and social development of Ecuador," he told Reuters.

However, foreign bankers say deep-rooted economic problems remain, particularly a widening budget deficit which will cut back President Hurtado's development programme.

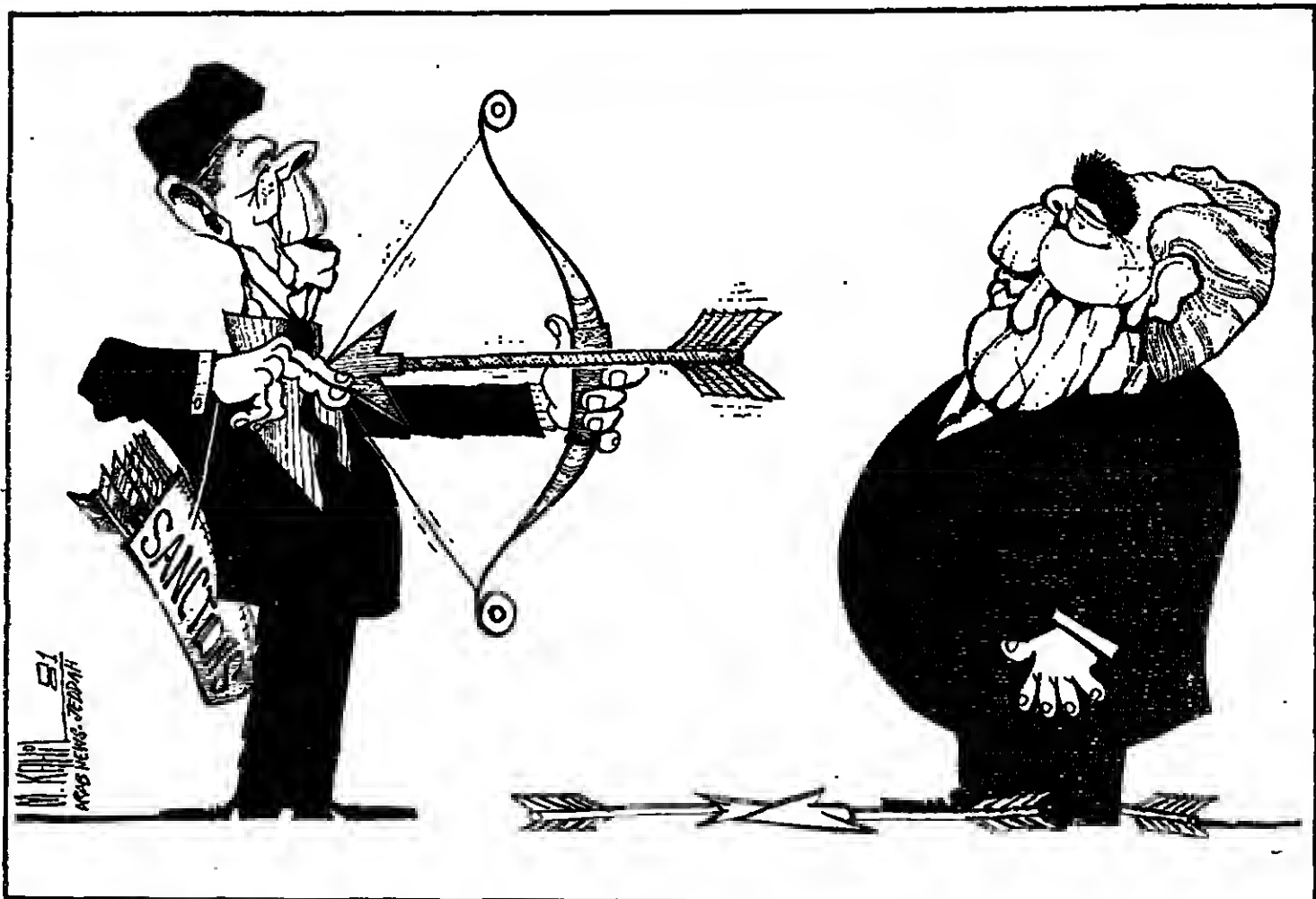
Lower than expected revenue from oil, Ecuador's main foreign currency earner, and increased defence spending, are expected to push the deficit to about \$735 million this year, equivalent to almost seven per cent of the gross domestic product.

Dr. Alban said the government hoped the shortfall would be reduced by more stable prices and increased tax revenue. But, the bankers say, any recourse to foreign borrowing would risk fuelling inflation, which at the current rate of 16 per cent a year has been one of the lowest in Latin America.

Government officials predict difficult times ahead. "It is the fate of a progressive government to be under fire from the left and right," one cabinet minister said.

But they remain confident the armed forces will respect democracy and give President Hurtado time to pursue his goal of economic progress and social reform.

-- Reuters



One year after the Soviet invasion

By Brian Williams

The Soviet Union is in effective control of Afghanistan's civilian administration two years after sending in its troops, according to reports from Western diplomats and exiles.

Moscow justifies its continued presence, internationally condemned by all but its closest allies, by alleging that Muslim rebels fighting the Kabul government are supported by the West.

The Soviet Union began moving troops into Afghanistan in early December two years ago. The climax of the intervention was a major airlift of troops on December 24 and 25.

On December 27 the Soviet troops seized key buildings in Kabul in a coup that brought President Babrak Karmal to power. That night Kabul radio announced that his predecessor, Hafizullah Amin, had been executed.

That support now includes not only 85,000 troops but also 4,000 military and 2,000 civilian advisers, according to Western diplomats.

ECONOMY

Exxon, Libya agree on pullout payment

NEW YORK, Jan. 6 (A.P.) — Exxon Corp. has reached agreement with the Libyan state oil company on payment for its oil and natural gas properties and assets in Libya, Exxon said yesterday.

Exxon had said last November that it was relinquishing its oil and gas operations in Libya and withdrawing its employees. Negotiations on terms for Exxon's departure were in progress then.

Exxon declined to say how much it was paid by the Libyan National Oil Co., saying only that it had received "an amount somewhat lower than the net book value" of the properties and assets of its two Libyan subsidiaries. Those properties include oil pro-

duction facilities and a wholly owned liquefied natural gas plant. Alvin Silbert, an oil analyst at Dean Witter Reynolds, estimated that the current value of Exxon's assets in Libya would be about \$100 million after accounting for depreciation over the 26 years since Exxon entered Libya.

Industry analysts estimate that Exxon had been taking less than 20,000 barrels a day of oil from Libya at the time it disclosed its plans to leave last November. Exxon declined to disclose production figures.

Exxon, which is the world's largest oil concern and discovered Libya's first oil field in 1959, said the assignment of its oil and gas properties to the Libyans was eff-

ective Dec. 1, 1981.

Exxon said non-Libyan workers for its subsidiaries there "are progressively departing" from Libya, and that "fewer than 20" Americans remain. The Americans still there are expected to leave by Jan. 31, Exxon added.

President Reagan on Dec. 10 had urged all Americans in Libya to leave as soon as possible, saying their lives were in danger because of deteriorating relations between the two governments. The administration had accused Libya of sending an assassination squad to the United States.

The State Department estimated that about 1,500 American workers and their dependents were in Libya when Mr. Reagan urged they leave. Many of the several hundred oil workers in Libya began leaving last month, although it is not clear how many remain.

The American oil companies operating in Libya are Occidental Petroleum Corp., Mobil Corp., Conoco Inc., Marathon Oil Co. and Amerasia Hess Corp. Of those, only Mobil has indicated it is considering withdrawing its operations.

Swiss banks asked to show hidden reserves

BERNE, Jan. 6 (R) — Swiss banks must in future give a clearer picture of their business in balance sheets following controversy over a major bank's losses in silver trading.

A spokesman for the federal banking commission said today that banks will have to show in the balance sheets how much they have taken from undisclosed reserves to cover losses incurred in their operations, details not previously made public.

The spokesman for the government body which supervises Swiss banking said it decided to act partly because of Swiss Volksbank's revelation in November that it drew 139 million francs (\$77 million) from undisclosed reserves in 1980 and 1981 to cover losses resulting from silver transactions in 1979.

Volksbank's 1980 balance sheet did not give any indication of the drawings or the silver losses, and showed a net profit higher than in 1979.

This prompted allegations in the Swiss financial press that the bank had misled the public. Volksbank's share price now stands at little more than half the peak it reached around the time when the 1980 accounts were published last

spring. Volksbank Chairman Ernst Brugger rejected the media's criticism and told a news conference that the main purpose of building up undisclosed reserves was to cover unexpected losses.

Other leading bankers have argued that full publication of losses in balance sheets might unnecessarily alarm depositors unaware that the bank had ample reserves to absorb them.

The banking commission spokesman said the Volksbank affair was merely one incident which prompted it to act.

Swiss debenture law allows all companies to build up hidden reserves to ensure their prosperity and maintain dividend payments. But banking law demands that banks give a clear and true picture of their business in their balance sheets.

The banking commission has withdrawn a 1975 circular which, the spokesman said, gave an interpretation that did not make its requirements clear enough. A new circular in preparation will oblige banks to publish both the drawings on hidden reserves and the losses to which they have been applied, he said.

By Charles Batchelor

AMSTERDAM: Nic van Geest, a Dutch glasshouse grower, looks at the sea of red, white and pink poinsettias which fill his 1.6 hectares of glasshouses, and gloomily calculates how much extra it will cost him to produce the same crop next year.

"I expect my gas bill in 1982 to be around Fl 300,000 (\$120,220) against Fl 200,000 in recent years," he says.

Mr. van Geest rejects the accusation of British and other foreign growers that cheap gas is the secret of the successful Dutch horticultural industry. The Netherlands subsidised gas is frequently used as an excuse by foreign competitors to cover their own shortcomings, the Dutch growers claim.

With 8,700 hectares under glass, the Netherlands possess the largest concentration of greenhouses in the world. Flower and vegetable exports are now worth Fl 3.5 billion annually. The scale of operations has supported the growth of specialised suppliers of anything from seeds to glasshouses.

Westland, a patch of land between The Hague, the Hook of Holland and Rotterdam, is the undisputed centre of the industry, accounting for over a third of the total. With more than 3,140 hectares under glass, it appears from the air like an unending sheet of

glass. Despite the encroachment of the surrounding towns which are desperate for building land, the Westland continues to offer a combination of a fertile sandy soil and a sheltered climate behind the coastal sand-dunes.

Profit margins of the area's 4,500 growers have come under pressure in recent years but most companies have still managed to modernise. Many British growers, by contrast, have failed to invest sufficiently, the Dutch claim.

As more countries have become exporters, Dutch growers have been forced to develop new crops and to specialise. Grapes grown under glass were once an important Dutch crop but they have now been almost phased out as being too labour-intensive.

As vegetable prices have come under pressure, many growers have switched to cultivating potted plants and flowers. Vegetables now account for only half of the Westland acreage under glass, with flowers taking up almost all of the rest.

Mr. van Geest alternates poi-

netias with amaryllis and tomatoes in his glasshouses. In the run-up to Christmas, he had some 150,000 poinsettias ready for the market.

Times are hard, the Westland growers say. Outgoings and income were roughly in balance in the 1970s, but now for every Fl 100 costs they are earning only Fl 90. The number of growers is declining and many of those that remain are eating into their reserves. The problems facing them are:

— High rates of interest. The growers now depend on borrower funds from family, and increasingly from the banks, for 40-50 per cent of their capital.

— High labour costs and a shortage of skilled labour. Dutch wages have risen less rapidly in recent years but still are among the highest. This is partly compensated by high productivity, yet growers still depend on several thousand, often unskilled, "gastarbeiders" to get the work done.

— Water pollution. The Westland growers draw much of their water from the Rhine, which car-

ries a toxic mixture of petrol, heavy metals and other substances from the industries along its banks in France and Germany. Mr. van Geest recently installed a water purification plant and began collecting his own rainwater.

— Expensive gas. The Dutch gas supply company, Gasunie, has agreed to phase in higher gas prices gradually but growers are still faced with much higher energy costs.

The controversial subsidy agreement which British growers say gives the Dutch an "8.5 per cent" cost advantage has already been challenged by the EEC Commission.

In the meantime, the Dutch Government has announced a Fl 300 million programme to stimulate investment in energy-saving measures and to encourage research.

The Dutch growers feel they deserve some help with their fuel costs since it was the government which encouraged them to switch from oil to gas.

Financial Times

U.S. urges Japan to reduce trade surplus

TOKYO, Jan. 6 (R) — The United States today increased pressure on the Japanese to cut their big trade surpluses by opening their market to more imports, especially of high-value manufactured products.

In a blunt speech in Tokyo, the U.S. ambassador to Japan, Mike Mansfield, said Japan's trading partners were extremely frustrated with its refusal to import sufficient goods to offset its soaring exports.

"We are in a critical period," he told foreign correspondents, businessmen and diplomats at a luncheon, adding that Japan was avoiding dropping into a deeper economic downturn largely on the strength of its exports.

"The root cause of economic friction between Japan and North America and between Japan and Europe is the belief that Japan's success results in large measure from a freer and fairer access to world markets than others have to Japan's market," he said.

Saying that this belief increased during periods of economic difficulty and large trade imbalances, the ambassador added: "It poses a grave risk to Japan."

Mr. Mansfield, former democratic party leader in the U.S. Senate, estimated Japan's trade surplus with the U.S. was \$18 billion last year and might top \$20 billion this year.

He said that while Japanese trade barriers were being lowered, access to the market for imports remained much less than trading partners expected.

But Japanese exports now took 20 per cent of the U.S. car market, 30 per cent of T.V. sets sold in the U.S., 90 per cent of the motorcycle market and 50 per cent of recorders and watches.

"On the other hand, aside from airplanes, there are no manufactured goods imported from the United States which enjoy as much as a 10 per cent market share in Japan," he said, adding that the situation was similar regarding investment.

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON, Jan. 6 (R) — Equities ended narrowly mixed while government bonds edged higher in quiet trading, dealers said. At 1500 GMT the F.T. index was up 1.9 at 521.0.

Jobbers marked equities lower initially to forestall selling after Wall Street's sharp falls yesterday. Small buying at the lower levels restored prices to around overnight levels, dealers added. Government bonds fluctuated to show closing gains of 1/8 to 1/2 point.

North American issues were lower and gold shares were steady at opening easier levels.

Oils were weak. B.P. and Shell both losing 4p. GEC rose 3p to 812 after 802 while Plessey and Tubes both added 4p. P and O ended 3p higher at 128 after 130 on vague bid speculation.

Bank of Scotland and the Royal Bank of Scotland firmed 1 1/2p and 8p respectively in an otherwise mixed banking sector. Vickers was up 3p on the prospect of increased exports by its Rolls Royce subsidiary this year.

Thomas Ward and Tunnel holdings, in which Ward has a substantial stake, both added 1 1/2p on a revised bid for Ward from RTZ. The new terms were later rejected. RTZ was down 2p to 427.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE

JORDAN TELEVISION FOR THURSDAY

CHANNEL 3

4:30 Koran
4:45 Cartoons
5:10 Children's Programme
7:05 Programme Preview
7:10 Special programme on Prophet Mohammad's Birthday Anniversary
8:00 News in Arabic
8:30 Local Programme
10:10 Local Programme
11:20 News

CHANNEL 6

6:00 French Programme
7:00 News in French
7:30 News in Hebrew
8:30 Are You Being Served
9:10 Quincy
10:00 News in English
10:15 Movie of the Week: "The Eagle has Landed"

FOR FRIDAY

CHANNEL 3

10:00 Koran
10:20 Children's programme
11:00 Religious programme
12:50 Forest Ranger
13:45 Barriers
14:15 Soccer
15:03 Play Guitar
15:30 Science and Life
17:30 Western Theatre
18:30 Feature Film
19:30 Religious Programme
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Arabic Series
21:30 Local Variety Programme
22:00 Arabic series
23:00 News in Arabic

CHANNEL 6

6:00 French Programme
7:00 News in French
7:30 News in Hebrew
8:30 Mary Tyler Moore Show
9:10 I remember Nelson
10:00 News in English
10:15 Flamingo Road

RADIO JORDAN 895 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM FOR THURSDAY

7:00 Sign on
7:30 Morning Show
7:50 News Bulletin
8:00 Morning Show
10:00 News Summary
10:30 Pop Session
11:00 Signing off
12:00 News Headlines
12:05 Pop Session
12:30 News Summary
13:03 Pop Session
14:00 News

14:10 Instrumentals
14:30 Now Music
15:00 Concert Hour
16:00 News Summary
16:30 Instrumentals
16:30 Old Favourites
17:00 Special Feature
17:30 Pop Session
18:00 News Summary
18:30 French way of Life
18:30 World of Arabian Music
19:00 News Desk
19:30 Music
20:30 Evening Show
21:00 News Summary
21:03 Evening Show
22:00 Close down

FOR FRIDAY

7:00 Sign on
7:30 Morning Show
7:50 News Bulletin
8:00 Morning Show
10:00 News Summary
10:03 Pop Session
11:00 Listeners' Choice
12:00 News Headlines
12:03 News Summary
13:00 Friday Special
13:03 Pop Session
14:00 News
14:10 Instrumentals
14:30 In Concert
15:00 Concert Hour
16:00 News Summary
16:30 Old Favourites
17:00 Pop Session
18:00 News Summary
18:30 Top Twenty
19:00 News Desk
19:30 Country Music
20:30 Over a Cup of Tea
21:00 Jazz Hour
22:00 Close down

BBC WORLD SERVICE FOR THURSDAY & FRIDAY 639, 720, 1413 KHz

GMT
04:00 Newsdesk 04:30 Classical Record Review 04:45 Financial News 04:55 Reflections 05:00 World News; 24 Hours News Summary 05:30 Twentieth Century Folk 05:45 The World Today 06:00 Newsdesk 06:30 Nature Notebook 06:40 The Farming World 07:00 World News; 24 Hours: News Summary 07:30 Marching and Waltzing 07:45 Network U.K. 08:00 World News; Reflections 08:15 Golden Treasury 08:30 John Peel 09:00 World News; British Press Review 09:15 The World Today 09:30 Financial News 09:40 Look Ahead 09:45 Rock Salad 10:15 Ploughmen of the Moon 10:30 Just a Minute 11:00 World News; News about Britain 11:15 Words that changed Lives 12:30 Assignment 12:50 Radio Newsdesk 12:15 Top Twenty 12:45 Sports Round-up 13:00 World News; 24 Hours: News Summary 13:30 Net-

work U.K. 13:45 The Pleasure's Yours 14:30 Discovery 15:00 Radio Newsdesk 15:15 Outlook 16:00 World News, Commentary 16:15 Assignment 16:45 The World Today 17:00 World News; Meridian 17:40 Waveguide 17:45 Sports Round-up 18:00 World News; News about Britain 18:15 Radio Newsdesk 18:30 Take it or Leave it 18:40 Outlook: News Summary 18:50 Stock Market Report 19:45 Look Ahead 19:45 News; 24 Hours News Summary 20:30 A Jolly Good Show 21:15 Ulster Newsletter 21:20 In the Meantime 21:30 Business Matters 22:00 World News 22:09 The World Today 22:25 Book Choice 22:30 Financial News, Reflections 22:45 Sports Round-up 23:00 World News; Commentary 23:15 Meridian Navy Programme 23:30 Meridian

SELECTED CHANGES FOR FRIDAY

05:30 The King of Instruments 07:30 Backtracking 8:30 Smash of the Day: The Navy Lark 11:15 In the Meantime 12:15 Jazz for the Asking 13:30 The King's Astroonomer 18:30 The Rewards of Music 23:30 The Long Run

AMMAN AIRPORT

NOTE: The following airport arrivals and departures are provided to the Jordan Times by the Amman Airport, Tel. 92205-6. They should always be verified by phone before the arrival or departure of the flight.

FOR THURSDAY

ARRIVALS:
8:00 Cairo (EA)
8:45 Cairo
8:55 Agaba
9:00 Damascus
9:30 Jeddah
9:40 Dhahran
9:45 Kuwait
9:45 Cairo
9:50 Ras Al Khaimah, Dubai
10:00 Doha, Bahrain
10:00 Beirut (MEA)
10:05 London (BA)
10:25 Kuwait (AF)
11:05 Riyadh (SV)
15:30 Kuwait (KAC)
16:30 Cairo
16:55 Agaba
17:00 Athens
17:25 London (BA)
17:30 London
17:45 New York, Vienna
18:00 Cairo
18:15 Amsterdam, Beirut (KLM)
19:15 Rome
20:30 Frankfurt (LH)
20:30 Beirut (MEA)
21:55 Beirut
01:00 Baghdad
02:45 Baghdad

DEPARTURES

3:15 Budapest
3:30 Cairo
3:50 Frankfurt (LH)
6:30 Damascus
6:45 Beirut
7:00 Agaba
9:00 Cairo (EA)
9:25 Beirut (MEA)
10:30 Rome
11:00 Amsterdam, New York
11:15 Athens
11:25 Madrid, Casablanca
11:30 Cairo
11:45 Geneva, Brussels
11:45 Geneva, Zurich (SR)
12:00 Paris, London
12:15 Riyadh (SV)
13:00 Cairo
15:00 Agaba
16:30 Kuwait (KAC)
18:30 Beirut
19:00 Kuwait
20:15 Baghdad
20:30 Abu Dhabi, Dubai
22:45 Baghdad

FOR FRIDAY

ARRIVALS:
8:00 Cairo (EA)
8:55 Agaba
9:40 Kuwait
9:45 Dubai, Abu Dhabi
9:45 Cairo
10:00 Dhahran
10:10 Beirut
15:35 Jeddah, Medina (SV)
15:45 Tripoli
16:45 Houston, N. York, Vienna
17:15 Kuwait (KAC)
17:28 Kuwait (KAC)
17:30 Paris
17:35 Brussels, Geneva
17:40 Madrid, Athens
17:45 Frankfurt
18:00 London
19:35 Frankfurt (LH)
19:45 Paris (AF)
20:00 Beirut (MEA)
23:55 Baghdad

DEPARTURES

3:30 Cairo
6:00 Beirut, Amsterdam (KLM)
6:30 Beirut
7:00 Agaba
9:00 Cairo (EA)
9:25 Beirut (MEA)
9:30 London (BA)
11:00 Vienna, N. York, Houston
11:10 Athens, Copenhagen
12:00 London
16:35 Medina, Jeddah (SV)
16:45 Tripoli
18:25 Kuwait (KAC)
18:50 Abu Dhabi
19:00 Kuwait
19:15 Riyadh (SV)
19:20 Bahrain, Doha
19:20 Dhahran
19:30 Jeddah
19:45 Baghdad
19:55 Abu Dhabi
20:30 Dubai, Karachi
23:30 Baghdad

EMERGENCIES

DOCTORS:
Amman: Zain Zaghoul 38591
Sa'id Irshaid 73500
Irbid: Anwar Al Sbbul 2624
Zarqa: Hisham Hiyasat 82440
PHARMACIES:
Amman: Al Arabiya Al Kubra 23141
Khattab (Marka)
Al Hussein 36410
Al Ja'fari 72679
Irbid: Al Share 75825
Zarqa: Nuba (-)
TAXIS:
Al Najah 44584
Sports City 63273
Khaldoun 62315

CULTURAL CENTRES

American Centre 41520
British Council 36147-8
French Cultural Centre 37009
Goethe Institute 41993
Soviet Cultural Centre 46203
Spanish Cultural Centre 24049
Turkish Cultural Centre 39777
Haya Arts Centre 65195
Al Hussein Youth City 67181
Y.W.C.A. 41793
Y.W.M.A. 64251
Amman Municipal Library 36111
University of Jordan Library 84355/84366

SERVICE CLUBS

Lions Philadelphia Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Grand Palace Hotel, 1:30 p.m.
Lions Amman Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Intercontinental Hotel, 1:30 p.m.
Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the Intercontinental Hotel, 2:00 p.m.
Philadelphia Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m.

MUSEUMS

Military Museum: Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Sunday to Friday. Closed on Saturdays. Tel. 64240.
Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash

(4th to 15th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760

Popular Life of Jordan Museum: 100 to 150 year old items such as costumes, weapons, musical instruments, etc. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. closed Tuesdays. Tel. 37169

Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Chadid Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Closed on Tuesdays.

Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculpture by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th century oriental artists. Muntazah, Jabal Lweibdeh. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed on Tuesdays. Tel. 30128

CHURCHES

Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabal Lweibdeh 37440

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman 24590
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Hussein 66428

Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 71331

PRAYER TIMES

Fajr 5:12
Sunrise 5:38
Dhuhr 12:42
Asr 1:52
Maghreb 4:54
Isha 6:12

LOCAL EXCHANGE

RATES

Saudi riyal 98.5/98.9
Lebanese pound 72.5/73.2
Syrian pound 57.4/57.8
Iraqi dinar 601.6/610
Kuwaiti dinar 1196.6/1200.8
Egyptian pound 336.5/338.6
Qatari riyal 92.3/92.8
UAE dirham 91.5/92
Omani rial 972.3/976.1
U.S. dollar 336.5/338.5
U.K. sterling 647.9/651.8

W. German mark 149.9/150.8
Swiss franc 187.3/188.4
French franc 58.1/58.5
Italian lire 28.1/28.3
(for every 100) 28.1/28.3
Japanese yen 155.5/156.2
(for every 100) 155.5/156.2
Dutch guilder 136.7/137.8
Belgian franc 87.9/88.4
Swedish crown 60.9/61.2

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Ambulance (government) 75111
Civil Defence rescue 61111
Jordan Electric Power Co. (emergency) 36381-2
Municipal water service (emergency) 37111-3
Police headquarters 39141
Najdah roving patrol rescue police. (English spoken) 24 hours a day for emergency 21111, 37777
Airport information (ALIA) 92208/92206
Jordan Television 73111
Radio Jordan 74111

Firstaid, fire, police 195
Fire headquarters 22080
Cablegram nr telegram 18

Telephone:
Information 12
Jordan and Middle East trunk calls 10
Overseas radio and satellite calls 17
Telephone maintenance and repair services 21

MARKET PRICES

Tomatoes	300	200	Broad Beans	250	400
Eggplant (small)	170	130	Bananas (Mukammar)	225	150
Eggplant (large)	140	100	Apples (Golden)	240	200
Potatoes (imported)	140	100	Apples (Double Red)	260	200
Marrows (small)	140	100	Apples (Starkent)	230	150
Marrows (large)	90	60	Lemons	150	100
Cucumber (small)	350	300	Oranges (Ahu surra)	250	200
Cucumber (large)	250	200	Oranges (Shamouti)	180	120
Hot Green Pepper	150	100	Oranges (local)	120	80
Sweet Pepper	170	120	Oranges (French)	140	100
Cabbage	100	70	Caiflower	130	90
Onions (dry)	100	70	Tangerine	250	200
Green onions	200	150	Bonmati	180	120
Garlic	400	300	Carrot	140	100
Spinach	120	80	Turruips	140	100
Coconut (piece)	380	300	Chestnut	140	100
Beans	300	250	Grapefruit	110	80
Bananas	260	200	Beet	130	100

SPORTS

Dyson scores his 2nd test century, steers Australia to 2nd test draw

SYDNEY, Jan. 6 (A.P.) — Sydney school teacher John Dyson and bad light steered Australia to a draw in the second cricket test against the West Indies at the Sydney Cricket Ground (SCG) here today.

Dyson posted his second test century in a defiant unbeaten innings of 127 in Australia's four wickets for 200 second innings tally. While 27-year-old Dyson was making a sound case for his retention for the third test in Adelaide at the end of the month, skipper Greg Chappell flopped again—this time out first ball to Colin Croft.

That continued a sorry sequence: 0, 0, 0, 0, 6, 12 and 0. The test fizzled to a draw after two interruptions for poor light at 4.18 p.m. and 4.45 p.m. (AEST). The match was stopped after the second interruption.

Chappell's direction to his batsmen to save the match left Australia one-up in the three test series.

ies with the final test commencing in Adelaide on January 30.

But Dyson was the froth on an otherwise A flat beverage to leave the day with an unconquered century in 377 minutes, his third century on the SCG this season.

Chappell said: "We needed a Dyson effort today. It ranks with his effort at Leeds on the last tour but I think the attack here was better than he faced there."

"Obviously his success on the SCG this season had a lot of bearing on his recall to the side. It lifted a lot of pressure off him to be in front of his home crowd."

Dyson came into the side to act as a buffer for an Australian skipper desperately trying to regain form.

Dyson filled his role in the first innings admirably before he went in a dubious low decision when 28.

Late yesterday and today Dyson, suffering from carping critics since he was dropped from the opening role in England, showed

his true mettle.

He had previously scored two centuries on the (SCG) against South Australia in the McDonalds Cup, and against the West Indians when they played New South Wales this season.

His knock today placed him in a select band of those who have scored a century in their debut against the West Indies.

He joins Alan Kippax, Ian Chappell, Kim Hughes, Norman O'Neill and Gary Cosier.

India retains 1-0 lead as 4th test ends in draw

CALCUTTA, Jan. 6 (R) — India forced a draw in the fourth cricket test against England today on a dull final day enlivened by a sit-down protest by England captain Keith Fletcher.

Fletcher showed his displeasure when the umpires ruled after only one ball this morning that the light was too dim for play to continue.

When the Indian openers, captain Sunil Gavaskar and Krish Srikanth, made their way back to the pavilion, Fletcher spoke to the umpires and made his feelings clear by squatting down on the edge of the wicket, where he was joined by several teammates.

They sat there for about five minutes until umpire M.V. Gothoskar ordered them off. Gavaskar and Srikanth has appealed for bad light when they arrived at the crease this morning, but were turned down. When, however, they were offered it a ball later, they had no hesitation in accepting.

International mountaineering team to attempt K-2 climb

PEKING, Jan. 6 (A.P.) — An international mountaineering team comprising of ten Japanese, and five Chinese are planning to climb the 8,611-metre peak K-2, the world's second highest mountain, China's official Xinhua news agency reported today.

A team organised by the Japan Alpine Association and the Sino-Japanese Cultural Exchange Association is to make the attempt this fall on K-2, which has been climbed only from the Pakistan side.

Xinhua said two U.S. teams, one British group and a Dutch team will try this year to climb the world's highest mountain, Mt. Everest, 8,848 metres.

A British team and a Japanese team will attempt to climb the 8,012-metre Mt. Xuzhangba, the world's 14th highest peak, in Tibet, Xinhua added.

More than 30 Chinese peaks now are open to foreign climbers, Xinhua said. It said 27 climbing teams and 34 trekking teams came to China last year and 30 climbing teams and 52 trekking teams are expected this year.

The expected climbing teams include nine from Japan, eight from the United States, four from Britain, two from Hong Kong and one each from Austria, Australia, Canada, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Spain and West Germany, it reported.

India keep up their World Hockey Cup challenge by beating England

BOMBAY, Jan. 6 (A.P.) — India, the 1980 Moscow Olympics champions, surged into second place in pool 'B' at the fifth World Cup field hockey tournament today, beating England 4-2.

The Indians are scheduled to play Australia, which heads the table, tomorrow in a match to decide final pool placings and the semifinals.

Defending World Cup champions Pakistan and West Germany led pool 'A' and seemed

assured of semifinal berths because each plays weaker opponents tomorrow.

Scores today:

Pool 'A': Spain beat Argentina 4-2 (halftime 3-1), New Zealand beat Poland 1-0 (halftime 1-0).

Pool 'B': The Soviet Union drew with Malaysia 2-2 (halftime Soviets led 2-1), India beat England 4-2 (halftime 3-1).

The Netherlands, which lost to Australia 2-3 yesterday, and India both have 3-1 won-lost records and six points each. But India took second place in the pool because of a better goal average.

New Zealand, 1976 Montreal Olympics champions, recovered from three consecutive defeats to edge Poland with a lone goal in the first half.

The match-winning goal came in the 23rd minute when inside-right Archibald dribbled past several defenders in a fine solo run and gave a straight pass to centre-forward Parkins who easily trapped the ball.

Only a minute earlier, Parkins had muffed an easy field goal.

European champions Liverpool staging a spectacular revival

LONDON, Jan. 6 (A.P.) — European soccer champions Liverpool, written off by many critics earlier this season, are staging a spectacular revival.

After a series of disappointing results the mighty Merseysiders recovered to swamp Swansea 4-0 in the FA Cup last weekend and then outplayed West Ham 3-0 at Anfield yesterday.

West Ham manager John Lyall believes Liverpool now are capable of winning a trophy this season.

"If they are a struggling team I don't know what the rest of the League are doing," said Lyall. "They are back to their best and when Liverpool are in that mood they are the most formidable opponents you could find."

Liverpool manager Bob Paisley has this term blooded a number of young, inexperienced players. Goalkeeper Bruce Grobelaar, expensive new defender Mark Lawrenson, midfielder Ronnie Whelan and striker Ian Rush all have been regular choices and the team has taken time to click.

All four already are internationals, but only Lawrenson, formerly with Brighton, had much first division experience before this season.

Although Liverpool now are eight points behind the first division leaders, they still have a chance of taking the championship for the fifth time in seven years.

Paisley certainly is satisfied. He now is willing to sell former England star Ray Kennedy, previously considered a vital member of the Liverpool squad, for only £175,000.

Arsenal, Kennedy's former club and Liverpool's opponents Saturday, are expected to lead the bidding for Kennedy along with Sunderland and Tottenham.

Arsenal manager Terry Neill has not had much success in the transfer market recently. Both forwards he has signed—John Hawley and Ray Hankin—have failed to make an impact.

Arsenal will be without goalkeeper Pat Jennings, who has a pulled hamstring, for Saturday's match. George Wood deputises and he will be aware that Arsenal have conceded only two goals in seven home league matches this season.

Ipswich, with games in hand over all the leading contenders, meet their closest rivals, Manchester United, in a battle of the table-toppers at Portman Road Saturday.

Ipswich manager Bobby Robson sees no reason why his team should not lead the standings from Saturday until the end of the season.

"We are the ones the others have to knock off the perch," he

A last minute goal by Foo Keat Seong helped Malaysia to draw against the Soviet Union. Both the teams have yet to win a match in the 15-day tournament, which began Dec. 29.

The Soviets dominated throughout. They are scheduled to play Holland in their last pool encounter tomorrow.

Spain scored its first victory, humbling Argentina 4-2. Argentina had upset New Zealand yesterday.

Spanish centre-forward Carlos Roca scored three goals and repeatedly penetrated the Argentine defence, which crumbled under pressure. Roca claimed his first goal in the 8th minute off a scoop by Juan Arbos.

Although India dominated the match, England snatched the lead in the 17th minute when Westcott converted a penalty corner. However three Indian goals followed in quick succession.

The Indians missed several scoring opportunities, converting only two of the 11 penalty corners they were awarded.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES H. GOREN

1981 by Chicago Tribune

DEAR MR. GOREN

Q. — We had a disaster the other day. I opened the bidding with one no trump and my left-hand opponent overcalled with two hearts. My partner had 8 HCP, a balanced hand and only a low doubleton in the opponents' suit. Nevertheless, she elected to bid three no trump. My holding in hearts was J-x-x, and the opponents took the first six tricks. I felt that my partner should have a stopper in hearts to bid three no trump. She insisted that she did not need one, and cited you as her authority. I don't want to argue with her, but I would like to hear that from the horse's mouth, so to speak. — R. Thomas, Arlington, Va.

(This question has been awarded the weekly prize.)

A. — In theory, your partner is correct. The jump to three no trump by responder does not promise a stopper in the enemy suit. It is presumed that the no trump bidder has the stopper, although that is not always the case—as your result proved.

However, I am not sure that, with a balanced eight points, your partner should have jumped to game. Even if you had a maximum 18, three no trump was unlikely to be a shoo-in once it was known that one of the opponents had a good, long suit with which to attack. A conservative raise to two no trump would have been more to my liking.

That would not have made much difference on this hand. You would have been down one in two no trump instead of two down in three no trump, and that's no big deal. But there will be hands where eight tricks can be

made, not nine, and it is a pity that you should convert a useful part score into a plus for the opponents.

There is a modern convention that permits you to discover, on game-going hands, whether you have a stopper in the overcaller's suit or not. We will not go into all its ramifications here because of space limitations and the complexities of the convention. It is known as the Lebensohl Convention and it was first described by George Boehm of New York.

Briefly, after an overall of partner's one no trump opening bid, you can no longer bid two no trump in its natural sense. Instead, two no trump forces opener to rebid three clubs. With a weak hand and a club suit, responder can pass. With a weak hand and some other long suit, responder bids his suit and opener is expected to pass.

With game-going values and no stopper in the opponents' suit, responder jumps to three no trump. Opener can pass with a stopper in the enemy suit or probe for some other game if the suit is unstopped.

With a stopper in the enemy suit and game-going values, responder first bids two no trump. Opener duly transfers to three clubs and responder now bids three no trump.

Finally, if you want to probe for a major-suit fit, you cue-bid the opponents' suit with no stopper. With a stopper, you bid two no trump, forcing opener to rebid three clubs, and then cue-bid the enemy suit.

Thus, if the opponents overcall your side's one no trump opening bid, you have the chance to play in either three of a suit, three no trump if you are sure that you have a stopper in the enemy suit, or game in a suit if you have no stopper in the suit that has been overcalled.

Advertise by mail in the Jordan Times

The Jordan Times can accept classified advertisements that are sent in by mail and accompanied by full payment in cash. Readers and advertisers who cannot conveniently

bring their advertisements to the Jordan Times office or to an advertising agency office in Amman may send in their ads by mail on the following conditions:

1. Full payment in cash or check accompanies the advertisement.
2. The minimum charge for a single advertisement is JD 6.
3. Advertisements sent by mail cannot contain any artwork such as company emblems, photos or drawings, but must consist only of a headline and copy that will be typeset by the Jordan Times.
4. Advertisements are not accepted over the telephone or telex, and guaranteed insertions on specific dates can only be assured by sending in the advertisements so they reach the Jordan Times office at least two days before the required day of publication.
5. For the minimum price of JD 6, the advertiser will have published an advertisement of three centimetres on two columns, which will have a maximum of 30 words, including the headline and telephone numbers to be called. The JD 6 charge is for one insertion; two insertions cost JD 12, three insertions cost JD 18, etc.
6. For a larger ad, the rates are JD 8 for 40 words and JD 10 for 50 words.
7. You can take advantage of the Jordan Times advertising by mail facility by completing the form below and mailing it with full payment in cash or check to:

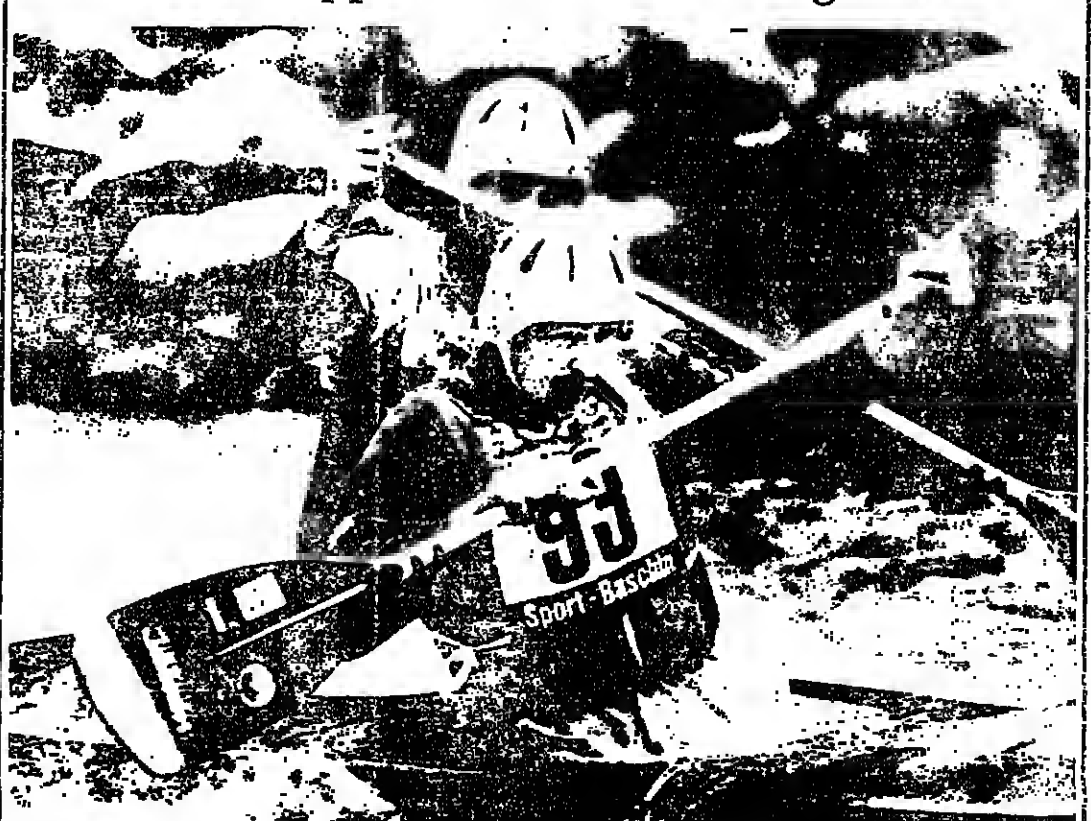
Advertising Department
The Jordan Times,
P.O. Box 6710,
Amman, Jordan.

(write one word only per box — please print)

Please publish the above advertisement in the Jordan Times on ——— day (s). Enclosed is payment of ———.

Name :
Address :
Signature :

Canoeists opportunities becoming limited



BIRKENFELD (INF). There's only limited stretches available for wild water canoeists. This does not mean that there are no longer sufficient rivers and streams for canoe enthusiasts—but the opportunities have become restricted. During the latest event on the Enz in the northern Black Forest, where this year's season was got underway, 38 clubs took part. However, the nature conservation

authorities initially called upon the organisers to postpone the event till August as they felt it was more important to ensure the water birds were not disturbed. Power stations, river monitoring plants and river improvement schemes have also all influenced the conditions for canoe enthusiasts. Officially in fact, they have been recommended to hold their events in Austria or Switzerland.

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Ground-floor apartment consisting of two bedrooms, lounge and dining area. With telephone, central heating and garden.

Location: Jabal Hussein, near Firas Circle
Contact tel. 25847

WANTED—By FRENCH family

Small furnished house or apartment (ground floor preferable) consisting of 2-3 bedrooms, with telephone and garden.

In one of the following areas: Shmeisani, Abdoun, Jabal Lumeideh or University Road.
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Fully furnished apartment consisting of two bedrooms, sitting room and dining room, with telephone, colour T.V., central heating and secured water supply.

Location: 4th Circle, Jabal Amman
Call tel. 41925, 42265

CAR FOR SALE

Buick Le Sabre, two-door 1980 model, fully automatic. 18,000 kms. Fuel economical. U.S.A. licence plates. Final price JD 2,800.

Call tel. 22029

WORLD

Chancellor Schmidt concludes visit to U.S.

Haig says Geneva talks on track despite Poland

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6 (A.P.) — U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig has suggested that high-level meetings with the Soviet Union scheduled for later this month will go ahead as scheduled despite the perceived Soviet role in instigating the Polish crisis.

At a news conference today, Mr. Haig also held out the possibility that a summit meeting between President Ronald Reagan and Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev may be moved up because of the events in Poland.

Mr. Haig said that Mr. Reagan and West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt both agreed in their talks yesterday that U.S.-Soviet arms control talks set to resume in Geneva next week should go ahead because they "constitute a special category of East-West relations."

The arms control issue, both leaders agreed, must be dealt with "outside the context of normal East-West relations" and talks should continue "except under the most exceptional circumstances," Mr. Haig said.

The Geneva talks are aimed at limiting intermediate range nuclear weapons in Europe. Mr. Haig also said he is inclined to go ahead with his scheduled meeting in late January with Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko on laying the groundwork for negotiations on limiting strategic nuclear weaponry.

But he said a final decision on the proposed meeting with Mr. Gromyko would depend on events occurring between now and then. Raising the possibility of a superpower summit, Mr. Haig noted that President Reagan has said that such meetings "are more important during times of crisis."

Mr. Haig expressed satisfaction with the outcome of Chancellor Schmidt's visit here, which ended

this morning after a breakfast meeting with Mr. Haig.

As a result of the meeting, the widely reported differences between the West German and American governments over the Polish government were less pronounced than the U.S. government had suspected.

Discussing the NATO ministerial meeting in Brussels next Monday, Mr. Haig said he expects an alliance-wide consensus will be reached on holding the Soviet Union responsible for the martial law crackdown in Poland.

Mr. Haig was less optimistic about the prospects for agreement on sanctions against Moscow. On that issue, he said, "each member government has a different set of problems." In any case, he said, the United States does not expect the alliance to move in "lock step" on the sanctions question.

After his meeting yesterday with Mr. Reagan, Mr. Schmidt attempted to quell speculation about serious U.S.-West German differences over Poland by saying he supports the sanctions Washington has imposed against the Soviets.

Schmidt backs U.S. sanctions

At the same time, Mr. Schmidt predicted that the reprisals will pack little economic punch and made clear that his country has no plans for similar steps although he concurs with Mr. Reagan that the Soviets bear heavy responsibility for the military crackdown in Poland.

Chancellor Schmidt and President Reagan issued a joint communique at the end of their talks yesterday blaming the Soviet Union for inspiring the crackdown and denouncing it as a "serious violation" of the Helsinki human rights accords.

"It is obvious that the action

would not have taken place without strong Soviet pressure," Mr. Schmidt told reporters.

The West German leader complained that the U.S. media had misrepresented his view by reporting that he did not share Mr. Reagan's assessment that the Soviets were largely to blame for the imposition of martial law in Poland.

After the meeting with Mr. Haig, Chancellor Schmidt departed by special plane for Bonn.

TASS raps Reagan, Schmidt

Meanwhile in Moscow, the Soviet news agency TASS said President Reagan and Chancellor Schmidt were trying to dictate to the Polish leadership "with whom and in what way" it should settle the country's crisis.

In a report from Washington on yesterday's meeting between the two leaders, TASS ignored their joint declaration that the Soviet Union was responsible for events in Poland.

It said Mr. Reagan and Mr. Schmidt had made a normalisation of relations with Poland "dependent in fact on the prior implementation of the demands advanced with regard to Poland by the NATO bloc."

"While pointing out that Poland should be allowed to resolve its problems without external interference," Reagan and Schmidt are trying at the same time to dictate to the Polish leadership with whom and in what way it should settle the country's domestic affairs," TASS said.

It reported that the two sides had discussed the effect of the Polish crisis on relations with the Soviet Union, adding that Mr. Schmidt had "held his own opinion, believing that 'sanctions' are not the means which can be used for effective influence on the U.S.S.R."

Czyrek confers with diplomats

BELGRADE, Jan. 6 (A.P.) — Polish Foreign Minister Jozef Czyrek has conferred with diplomats from Western and developing countries on the situation in Poland, the Tanjug news agency said today.

The Yugoslav agency quoted Warsaw Radio as saying Mr. Czyrek expressed satisfaction during yesterday's meeting that most countries viewed problems in Poland "with understanding."

He was quoted as stressing the significance of economic assistance Poland is receiving and pledged Poland would "remain an active factor in détente, cooperation and peace in the world."

Key police witness against IRA injured in Dublin car-bomb blast

DUBLIN, Jan. 6 (A.P.) — Dr. James O'Donovan, the Irish Republic's top police forensic scientist and a key witness against Irish Republican Army (IRA) guerrillas accused of murdering Britain's Earl Mountbatten of Burma in 1979, was wounded today when a bomb exploded in his car as he drove to work, police reported.

Dr. O'Donovan, 40, director of the forensic science department at Dublin police headquarters, suffered serious leg injuries in the blast, a police spokesman said.

He was rushed by ambulance to St. James's Hospital in downtown Dublin, where his exact condition was not immediately known.

The spokesman said the injuries were "very serious" but O'Donovan's life was not in danger.

The police spokesman said the bomb apparently was hidden under the hood of Dr. O'Donovan's sedan and exploded moments after he left his home in suburban

RNM to free kidnapped Briton

LISBON, Jan. 6 (A.P.) — An anti-Marxist Mozambican guerrilla organisation has decided to free a kidnapped British teacher within the next 10 days, a spokesman for the group said here today.

Concern for the safety of John Burlison, a 28-year-old ecologist from Stockton-On-Tees, was the only reason for holding up his release by the Mozambique National Resistance Movement (RNM), according to the spokesman.

"His release will take seven to 10 days because we must make sure that we free him in an area that is not under the control of Frelimo (the ruling party in Mozambique). Otherwise, they are

quite capable of barring him after we have let him go and then blaming it on us," the spokesman said.

RNM's president, Alfonso Dlakhamu, has written a letter to Mr. Burlison's parents explaining the circumstances in which their son was captured and announcing the decision to release him, the spokesman said.

The letter will be delivered to a British embassy in an unidentified African country either today or tomorrow, he added.

The RNM kidnapped Mr. Burlison and a fellow teacher during an attack on the Gorongosa National Wildlife Park in central Mozambique last Dec. 17. Mr. Burlison was academic director at

the park's wildlife school.

There was no news on when the other kidnapped man — Moises Carrillo, a Chilean national who taught mathematics at the school — might be released.

The decision to free the British teacher was taken after an RNM investigation concluded that Mr. Burlison had no political links with Mozambique's Marxist regime, the spokesman said.

However, Mr. Carrillo would not yet be freed, according to the spokesman, as investigations on his possible links to the government were still continuing. "We still have some suspicions about him and his relationship with Frelimo," the spokesman said.

Victoria offers to aid Pretoria in 'hijack' case

VICTORIA, Seychelles, Jan. 6 (R) — Seychelles President Albert Rene today offered to help South Africa prosecute 45 men alleged to have taken part in last November's foiled coup against his country.

Reacting to the announcement in South Africa yesterday that hijacking charges were or will be brought against 45 men alleged to have fled the Seychelles in a commandeered Air India plane, President Rene told Reuters in an interview that his government would provide any evidence or assistance South Africa needed.

President Rene was highly critical of the Pretoria government when 39 of the men were released and five others charged with kidnapping shortly after the hijacked plane landed in Durban.

The socialist leader said of yesterday's announcement: "It is certainly an improvement on what the position was before. At least we know who these people are and what charges are being brought against them."

Wife of alleged ex-Nazi captain files divorce suit

SACRAMENTO, California, Jan. 6 (A.P.) — The wife of Otto von Bolschwing, an ailing 73-year-old former Nazi S.S. captain, has filed for divorce after 20 months of marriage. Agnes von Bolschwing, 73, said in a superior court petition that irreconcilable differences had caused the breakdown of their marriage. Von Bolschwing, accused of having been Nazi S.S. captain and adviser to Adolf Eichmann during World War II, agreed last month to surrender his U.S. citizenship. The Justice Department agreed to delay deportation proceedings because of his poor health. Last month, Mrs. von Bolschwing denounced the federal action against her husband, saying that it was unfair of the government to wait until he was old and sick and unable to defend himself. The couple, both married previously, met while they were living in a senior citizens' complex here.

Pakistan bans Indian sari

KARACHI, Jan. 6 (A.P.) — The sari, India's popular and elegant women's wear, has been banned in Pakistan's official and semi-official organizations. Women employees have been instructed to report to work wearing baggy trousers and long skirts, described as Pakistan's national dress. Karachi's English Daily Star quoted today official sources in the capital of Islamabad as saying that the government decided to ban the sari on account of its being un-Islamic. The sari does not fully cover a woman's body. Her arms and legs and feet are partly exposed. Meanwhile, for the past four weeks, male employees working for official institutions, from ministers down to peons, have been reporting to work wearing baggy trousers and long shirts, it strict compliance with an official decision to this effect. The European suit has been discarded.

British SDP-Liberal alliance at loggerheads

LONDON, Jan. 6 (A.P.) — After a meteoric rise to popularity in 1981, the trial marriage of Britain's new Social Democratic Party (SDP) and the 150-year-old Liberal Party is having trouble over the young bride's demand for equal rights.

Liberal leader David Steel met

SDP co-founder William Rodgers yesterday for what the press called "crisis" talks on the rift over how many and which districts each party will run candidates in for the next general election, due by May 1984.

The SDP wants parity, with each party allotted half the 635

House of Commons seats. The Liberals, with local party organizations and prospective candidates in most parliamentary districts, balk at standing aside in so many constituencies.

The parties are also wrangling over who will run in the 50 most promising districts, where Lib-

erals finished strong seconds in the 1979 election.

Mr. Steel and Mr. Rodgers appointed representatives to try to work out a compromise but declined to shake hands for photographers after their luncheon meeting.

Ghana coup leader vows to punish former officials

ABIDJAN, Jan. 6 (R) — Ghana's new military ruler said today that perpetrators of crimes against the people could not be allowed to escape justice.

Radio Accra, monitored here, quoted F. L. Jerry Rawlings as saying: "Those who have committed crimes against the people cannot be allowed to go scot-free."

He said the Provisional National Defence Council (PNDC) the leaders would set up people's tribunals to try those who had committed such crimes.

F. L. Rawlings seized power from President Hilla Limann in a new Year's Eve coup and then scrapped the country's democratic institutions, calling for a war against corruption.

The PNDC would harness all talents in the nation and "is even prepared to use the talents of per-

sons who had featured in the previous government in positions where they showed their mettle and where they can make a contribution," he added.

F. L. Rawlings said the trials would be public, "but the tribunals will not be fettered in their procedures by technical rules which in the past perverted the course of justice and enabled criminals to go free."

He said yesterday his takeover was to stem "the rapid national decline that was upon us."

F. L. Rawlings took power in Ghana once before, in June 1979, and three former heads of state were executed before he handed over to a civilian administration led by Dr. Limann, the man he has just deposed. The PNDC announced the arrest of Dr. Limann and three bodyguards on Monday.

Senegambia merger pact to go into effect Feb. 1

DAKAR, Senegal, Jan. 6 (A.P.) — The confederation between the West African states of Senegal and Gambia will become operational on Feb. 1, Senegalese President Abdou Diouf announced today.

The Senegambian confederation agreement calls for integration of the two countries' armed forces, development of a common economic and monetary system and political coordination on foreign affairs and communications. Each state will remain sovereign and independent in all other matters.

Senegal is 10 times as large as Gambia, which it surrounds on all sides except for a small coastline. Senegal is a former French colony and Gambia was once a British possession.

The two countries have longed discussed some kind of confederation, but the talks got underway in earnest after Senegal helped put down an attempted

coup in Gambia last July. A draft proposal for confederation was submitted to both countries' national assemblies, which passed them simultaneously on Dec. 30.

The administrative machinery of the confederation will include the office of the confederal presidency in Senegal, the vice presidency in Gambia, a confederal assembly with a two-to-one majority of Senegalese deputies and a council of ministers.

The president of the confederation will assume responsibility for the security of the confederation. In effect, Gambia, which has only a 500-member paramilitary police force, will turn over all defence matters to Senegal.

The agreement also calls for creation of a neutral tribunal to deal with any difference of interpretation of the confederation pact.

The Weekend Crossword

(Formerly The New York Herald Tribune Crossword)
Edited by Herb Ettenson

LEAVINGS

By H. E. Bennett

ACROSS

- 1 Household woman
- 2 Queen bee
- 3 Encourage in wrongdoing
- 4 Meeting; abbr.
- 5 Live — of bricks
- 6 Bring up
- 7 Musical Barok
- 8 I'll be seeing you, Helmut
- 9 Bay window
- 10 Part of RSVP
- 11 Dovecall
- 12 The Count of Monte Cristo
- 13 Cup handle
- 14 Soldier; abbr.
- 15 Dances school
- 16 Letters
- 17 Bridge play
- 18 Low voice
- 19 Important
- 20 Relative of a postcard

DOWN

- 1 Theatrical
- 2 Males amends
- 3 "The King"
- 4 Worth
- 5 Disinclined
- 6 Chaps up
- 7 Name for a dog
- 8 de mar
- 9 Multitudes
- 10 The Good Book
- 11 Hebrew month
- 12 Musical piece
- 13 Movie industry
- 14 Make jubant
- 15 Parting a la
- 16 LQ men
- 17 Noticed
- 18 Hit sign
- 19 Watch the kids
- 20 Those who make pronouncements

Diagrams

19 X 19, by Adam Christopher

ACROSS

- 1 Decay
- 2 Strife
- 3 Party snack
- 4 Name for a dog
- 5 Straight beam
- 6 Root of a plant
- 7 Particle
- 8 Author Emile
- 9 Make info a law
- 10 Carous
- 11 King of the gods

DOWN

- 1 Jacket device
- 2 Of the ear
- 3 Theme of a sermon
- 4 Place for Italian trucks
- 5 Woodwind
- 6 Part du
- 7 Offshore
- 8 Canal country
- 9 Rome
- 10 Roman road
- 11 White cliffs locale

ACROSS

- 21 Despot
- 22 Trail coyote
- 23 Bardon
- 24 Shaving implements
- 25 Sire
- 26 Prepare copy
- 27 Best kit
- 28 Sire
- 29 Williams or Warhol
- 30 Spat for the foot
- 31 Climbing vine
- 32 Fire
- 33 Western show

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